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EAST EUROPE BRANCH NOTES

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EAST GERMANY

FRG Air Penetrations Charged

The East German press service charged yesterday that West German helicopters and other aircraft recently violated GDR airspace on three different days. A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry said that only circumspect action by East German forces prevented grave consequences. The spokesman has protested the "provocative and unlawful violations of GDR airspace" and has expressed the hope that the FRG will prevent such actions in the future. In Bonn, the Interior Ministry promptly denied that a Federal Border Guard helicopter had crossed the border.

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ALBANIA

Hoxha Makes An Appearance

Albanian party chief Enver Hoxha visited a tractor plant in Tirana on April 13, in his first public appearance in six weeks. He has been seen in public only three times since late October. His prolonged absences and history of heart trouble prompted speculation that he may be ill.

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